Sparks from Fr. Mark

Solemnity of St. Peter and St. Paul, Apostles

June 29, 2008

I wanted to give everyone an update on some parish projects we have been working on this summer.

This past month or so we have been working with the Department of Transportation regarding our entrance into the church parking lot. There have been numerous comments on how steep the driveway has become since they started working on Sturgis Road. The incline on the driveway has increased from about a 5% grade to a 12% grade. After pointing this out to the DOT, they decided to move our driveway entrance to the northwest about 80 yards toward Casa Maria. You can see the blue stakes marking the center line of the new entrance and driveway. However, the work will not begin until sometime after the rally.

We are getting closer to the new flooring being installed in the gathering area… In preparation for this event, we are asking for your help on Monday evening, June 30, at 6:30 pm. Anyone is welcome to help pull out the old carpet and the staples in the floor to get ready for the new flooring. For more information, please give Jim Wranek a call.

On Tuesday, July 1 at 6:30 pm, we will have a meeting to do some further work on the plans for Mary's Garden, which will come off the new patio. The gorgeous and plentiful rain has held up our work a bit. Plus the project committee wanted to make sure we knew where the plot lines and property markers are before we get started, so a survey was completed this past week. For more information please visit with Jim Wranek or Rebecca Lyle.

That is it for now.

The Week Ahead

June 30 – July 6, 2008

Monday, June 30

Liturgical Color: Green
Readings: Amos 2:6-10, 13-16; Psalm 50:16-23; Matthew 8:18-22
8:00 am: Daily Liturgy
Mass Intention: For the Gatherings of Grace and Youth Ministry core teams

Tuesday, July 1

Liturgical Color: Green
Readings: Amos 3:1-8; 4:11-12; Psalm 5:4-8; Matthew 8:23-27
8:00 am: Daily Liturgy
Mass Intention: For those who have suffered from natural disasters this summer
7:00 pm: Adventures in Revelation
7:00 pm: Boy Scouts

Wednesday, July 2

Liturgical Color: Green
Readings: Amos 5:14-15, 21-24; Psalm 50:7-17; Matthew 8:28-34
6:00 pm: Home Mass at the Weavers
Mass Intention: For the Weaver family

Thursday, July 3

Feast of St. Thomas, Apostle

Liturgical Color: Red
Readings: Ephesians 2:19-22; Psalm 117:1-2; John 20:24-29
8:00 am: Daily Liturgy
Mass Intention: For Crystal Hocking and David Higaki on their wedding day
7:00 pm: Wedding Celebration of Crystal Hocking and David Higaki

Friday, July 4

Independence Day

Liturgical Color: Green
Readings: Amos 8:4-6, 9-12; Psalm 119:2, 20, 30, 40, 131; Matthew 9:9-13
No Daily Liturgy
Office Closed

Saturday, July 5

Liturgical Color: Green
Readings: Amos 9:11-15; Psalm 85:9-14; Matthew 9:14-17
8:00 am: Daily Liturgy with Eucharistic Adoration and Morning Prayer
Mass Intention: Thanksgiving for the blessing of living in a society founded on democracy
3:30 – 4:30 pm: Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday Evening, July 5

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Liturgical Color: Green
Readings: Zechariah 9:9-10; Psalm 145:1-2, 10-11, 13-14; Romans 8:9, 11-13; Matthew 11:25-30
5:00 pm: Sunday Liturgy
Mass Intention: For the OLBH Community

Sunday, July 6

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Liturgical Color: Green
Readings: Zechariah 9:9-10; Psalm 145:1-2, 10-11, 13-14; Romans 8:9, 11-13; Matthew 11:25-30
8:00 am: Sunday Liturgy
Mass Intention: For those attending World Youth Day 2008
10:30 am: Sunday Liturgy
Mass Intention: For all souls in Purgatory
7:00 pm: Taize Prayer

Parish Community News

June 29, 2008

Confirmation Photos Still Needed!

If you have a group photo of this year's confirmation, please bring Betsy a copy so it can be published in the West River Catholic. We need it before July 13. Thanks!

Altar Server Training

There will be a training session for all Altar Servers on Sunday, July 13, after 10:30 Mass. There are many changes so all servers are expected to attend. Pizza afterwards! If you have any questions, please call Jayme and Reggie Hunt at 722-2529 or Erik and Estela Haakedahl at 721-9056.

Home Mass

Join the Weaver family for Home Mass on Wednesday, July 2, at 6:00 pm. Bring a favorite snack or dessert to share afterwards. To get there from I-90, take exit 44, Bethlehem Road, and go west on the service road, which becomes Sturgis Road. Go 3.5 miles and look for the Weaver mailbox on the left, 21515 Sturgis Road, 787-9557. See you there!

Blessings

To Crystal Hocking and David Higaki, who will celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage Thursday, July 3, at 7:00 pm. They invite all parishioners to join in the celebration. There will be cake and coffee following the ceremony.

Children's Choir

There will be children's choir practice Sunday, July 13, 9:15 to 10:00 am. Questions? Call Lorraine Ptacek at 716-9239.

Missing Any Fish Fry Equipment?

We have two propane tanks, two turkey fryers, and one fryer kettle and lid left over from the Lenten fish fries. If you own any of these items, please pick them up from Father Mark's garage.

B-i-n-g-o

Would you like to help with Bingo at the Sturgis Nursing Facility on Monday, July 7? We will leave OLBH at 1:00 pm and return by 4:00 pm. Bingo prizes are also needed—look for the donation crate in the gathering area. Please call Kathy at 787-6218 if you can help.

KC Officer Installation

Come celebrate with the Knights of Columbus as we welcome our newly elected officers, Sunday, June 29, at noon, in the Parish Hall. We will have a potluck lunch followed by an induction ceremony. All are welcome.

Duc in Altum

Summer Catechetical Program
for Children and Youth
July 27-31
Grades 1-8: Monday-Thursday, 9 am-2:30 pm
Grades 9-12: Sunday-Thursday, 7:30-9:30 pm
Cost: $20 per child or $35 per family
Registration forms in the gathering area

News from Around the Diocese

June 29, 2008

Friends of Luke and Martha

The Friends of Luke and Martha is an organization of Catholic single people, open to men and women, ages 21-55, who are single for any reason. On Sunday, July 13, we will go to the "Blessing to One Another" exhibit and dinner afterwards. If you are interested in attending, contact Terry Schroeder at 341-1143 or Lisa Wattenhofer at 342-2305.

Faithful Citizenship

Catholics who are privileged to serve in public leadership positions have an obligation to place their faith at the heart of their public service, particularly on issues regarding the sanctity and dignity of human life. Thomas More, the former chancellor of England who preferred to give his life rather than betray his Catholic convictions, went to his execution with the words, "I die the king's good servant, but God's first." In the United States some will face a political penalty for living their public office in accord with their pro-life convictions. To those who choose this path, we assure them that their course is just. In an age of artifice, many voters are hungry for substance. They admire and support political figures who speak out sincerely for their moral convictions. We commend public officials who, with courage and determination, use their positions of leadership to promote respect for human life.

(From the Diocesan Pro-Life Commission Faithful Citizenship Committee)

Centering Prayer and Lectio Divina

Sister Marmion Howe reports some changes with the Thursday evening Centering and Lectio Divina held at St. Martin Monastery, Benedict Hall. The group will now meet from 7:00 to 8:00 pm, and offer one "sit" of Centering Prayer followed by one period of shared Lectio Divina. If you have any questions, call Sister Marmion at 343-2688.

Make Someone's Day!

Every day here in Western South Dakota many elderly and disabled people depend on the Meals on Wheels Program for nutritious food. Would you like to volunteer to deliver meals for one hour per day? If so, contact the Marcia Mayer at the Meals Program at 394-6002.

Christian Family Planning Seminar

The Natural Family Planning Ministry is offering a seminar July 19, 9 am to noon, at St. Anthony's in Hot Springs. This seminar is required for all couples planning to be married in the Diocese of Rapid City. To register or find out more about it, call Jill or Kathy at 343-3541.

Rachel's Corner

There are many post-abortive women who live in silent torment. We must reach out in truth, love, and mercy, and bring the good news of Christ's forgiveness and healing to these women. If you or someone you know has experienced an abortion, contact Carol Kling at 374-5639 for information on upcoming retreats.

Next Weekend's Ministry Schedule

July 5-6, 2008

Ministry	Saturday, July 5 5:00 pm	Sunday, July 6 8:00 am	Sunday, July 6 10:30 am
Bread Baker	Betsy Van Asma	Betsy Van Asma	Betsy Van Asma
Altar Servers	David Strand Christopher Van Asma Matthew Van Asma	Bethany Ehresmann Elijah Ehresmann Hannah Ehresmann	Kayla McCaskell Mary Pulaski Christian Weaver
Precious Blood	Katie Strand Stephanie Strand Betsy Van Asma Tom Van Asma	Frank Boner Marty Quinn Pat Suiter Caitlin Wilson	Lorinda Collings Sharon Long Judy Nelson Kathy Van Asma
Precious Body	Jim Scherr	Diane Clarke	Ken Van Asma
Lectors	Sarah Cresalia Julie Shauger	Diane Clarke Marty Quinn	Pamela Weaver Bob Weaver
Sacristans	Patty and Charlie Cresalia	Donna and Frank Boner	Kathy and Ken Van Asma
Ushers	Jayme and Reggie Hunt	The Inman Family	Brad McCaskell Jim Pulaski
Choir	Family Choir	Regina's Minstrels	Folk Group

Intercessory Prayers

Life and Health Concerns

Janice Collings, Joe Creek, Pam Deaver, Meghan Freeman, Frank Keller, Marianne Lee, Sharon Long, Henry Maicki, Pat Roe, Enola Sorlie, Peggy Volin, Wes Welch, Mary Kay Young

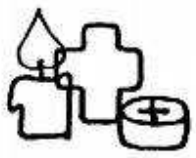
Repose

Kenneth Anderson

The Collection Basket

June 22, 2008

Loose	$ 979.00
Envelopes	1,837.00
Votive	2.11
Student	47.16
Building Fund	30.00
Other	143.40
Total	$3,038.67



Saints of the Week

Peter and Paul, Apostles

June 29, 2008

Veneration of the two great Apostles, Peter and Paul, has its roots in the very foundations of the Church. They are the solid rock on which the Church is built. They are at the origin of her faith and will forever remain her protectors and her guides. To them Rome owes her true greatness, for it was under God's providential guidance that they were led to make the capital of the Empire, sanctified by their martyrdom, the center of the Christian world whence should radiate the preaching of the Gospel.

Peter's original name was Simon. Christ himself gave him the name Cephas or Peter when they first met and later confirmed it. This name change was meant to show both Peter's rank as leader of the apostles and the outstanding trait of his character — Peter (in Hebrew Kephas) the Rock. Peter was born in Bethsaida on the Sea of Galilee. Like his younger brother Andrew, he was a fisherman and dwelt at Capernaum. Peter's house often became the scene of miracles, since the Master would stay there whenever he was teaching in that locality. Together with his brothers John and Andrew, Peter belonged to the first of Jesus' disciples (John 1:40-50).

Paul, known as Saul before his conversion, was born at Tarsus in the Roman province of Silicia about two or three years after the birth of Christ. He was the son of Jewish parents who belonged to the tribe of Benjamin, was reared according to the strict religious-nationalistic party of the Pharisees, and enjoyed the high distinction of Roman citizenship.

As a youth Saul went to Jerusalem to become immersed in the law and had as a teacher the celebrated Gamaliel. He acquired skill as a tent-maker, a work he continued even as an apostle. Paul started out as a zealous opponent of the Christians—in fact he assisted in the martyrdom of Stephen. But then he met the Resurrected Jesus one day as he was hurrying along the road to Damascus. His conversion was instant, he was renamed Paul, and he went on to use all that zeal to convert others to Christ.

Peter and Paul both remained intimate with Jesus throughout their lives, seeking his will in all things, and working closely with him to establish the Christian church, even in the midst of great opposition, persecution, and torture. St. Peter suffered martyrdom under Nero, in A.D. 66 or 67. He was buried on the hill of the Vatican where recent excavations have revealed his tomb on the very site of the Basilica of St. Peter. St. Paul was beheaded in the Via Ostia on the spot where now stands the Basilica bearing his name. Through the centuries Christian people have gone on pilgrimage to the tombs of these great apostles.

Reprinted with permission of Catholic Culture: Living the Catholic Life at www.catholicculture.org.